



George
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U.S. Senator *for* Florida

E- NEWSLETTER

Thank you for subscribing to my weekly update - a brief summary of some of the more notable events during the last seven days. I hope you'll find this useful and informative.

You can also follow my regular updates via [YouTube](#), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).



It is an honor and a privilege to serve as your United States Senator and I look forward to hearing from you. If you want to share this newsletter with a friend, sign them up today at <http://LeMieux.Senate.gov>.

Promoting U.S. Counterterrorism Cooperation, Education and Trade

For the last several days, I have been meeting with senior military officers, public officials, and non-government organization and business leaders in Yemen, Djibouti, Pakistan and India. As a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and the lead Republican on the Emerging Threats subcommittee, I believe it is important to keep an open dialogue with our allies in the war on terror, and hear current assessments from U.S. military and diplomatic officials in the field.

In Yemen, I met with President Ali Abdullah Saleh, Yemen's Ministers of Defense, Interior, Foreign Affairs and Finance, and local civil society leaders to discuss counterterrorism cooperation. We focused on issues pertaining to political and economic stability, and ongoing efforts to rout terror groups from their country.



In Djibouti, I received security briefings at the U.S. Naval Expeditionary Base, Camp Lemonnier. This base was established as a response to the attacks of September 11, 2001 and is used to address the growing threat of terrorism in the Horn of Africa. The brave men and women at Camp Lemonnier are providing a valuable service under extraordinary circumstances and we owe them a huge debt of gratitude.



Terrorist groups often recruit members from poorly-educated and poverty-stricken areas. That is why I was pleased to view an area community development program focused on educating young Djiboutian children. This effort, and others like it, will help keep young people from falling prey to radical extremism. On the shelf in their learning center, amazingly, was an FCAT workbook.



In Pakistan, I met with the Minister of Interior, Mr. A Rehman Malik, as well as senior U.S. military officials to discuss national security issues and counterterrorism cooperation. Continuing to engage with and support our allies in this region is extremely important. Just this week, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton named the Taliban Movement of Pakistan to its foreign terrorist organizations list - a move imposing financial and travel sanctions on its members and suspected supporters.

In India, I spoke with several high-ranking officials about regional political and economic security. I also had the opportunity to meet with several area chamber of commerce groups and noted that increased trade creates additional jobs in the U.S., helping to improve the economies of states like Florida. When a Florida company sells its goods overseas it becomes more resilient to the recession, retains more workers and often times hires more workers. Both India and America believe in democracy, human rights and promoting entrepreneurship.

As a member of the Senate Commerce Committee and the lead Republican on the Competitiveness, Innovation and Export Promotion subcommittee, I will to continue to work to reduce trade barriers between our nations and promote exporting. Put simply, increased exports mean more jobs for Floridians.



In addition to economic and security meetings in India, I visited the Anjuman-I-Islam Girls High School and Junior College. Their curriculum amazingly includes students learning three languages, including English, and reportedly 96 percent of students go on to college.



I look forward to sharing more about the United States' efforts in these regions in the coming weeks. We must continue to promote trade and security abroad to attain peace and prosperity at home. Please stay informed by following my updates via [YouTube](#), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#). I intend to talk about these issues on the floor of the Senate, in committee meetings on Capitol Hill, and before community groups in Florida.

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